Bloomfield Citizen.

WEEKLY JOURNAL

PUBLISHED BY

WILLIAM A. RITSCHER, Jr.

at Bloomfield, Essex County, N. J.

Office: 802 Glenwood Avenue

Subscription, $2.00 per year, in advance.

Six months, $1.00; Three months, 50c.

Entered at the Post-office at Bloomfield as second-class matter.

THE CITIZEN *solicits contributions from the general public on any subject—political, religious, educational, or social—so long as they do not contain any personal attacks.*

All communications must be accompanied by the writer's name, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith.

Advertisements for insertion in the current week must be in hand not later than Friday noon.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1903.

Crusade Against Rowdyism.

The local police court was crowded Monday morning with plaintiffs, defendants and witnesses interested in cases of disorderly conduct on the Bloomfield avenue trolley cars. The first case tried by Recorder Cadmus was the complaint made by Inspector McGill of that railroad company against a young man named John Shaw. The young man, the inspector said, had given trouble to the conductor all the way from Newark Saturday night, and when remonstrated with had used profane and obscene language. Shaw denied the charge, but the Recorder fined him $10.

The next case was that of Mollie Burton, a colored girl, who was charged by one of the trolley car conductors with disorderly conduct on the car he had charge of. She was also fined $10. Both fines were paid during the day.

Superintendent Stewart of the Bloomfield avenue division of the Public Service Corporation was in attendance at the trials, and he afterward informed Chief of Police Collins that the company was going to enforce vigorous measures for the protection of its passengers against disorderly conduct and rowdyism on the cars. Any conductor who refuses to make a complaint against parties guilty of disorderly conduct on his car will be discharged from the employ of the company. The larger number of offenders against order and decency on the trolley cars are drunken young men returning from Newark to Montclair and other places late Saturday and Sunday nights. The traction officials will find Recorder Cadmus a valuable ally in the crusade against rowdyism on the cars. The Recorder is just and firm, and offenders will be dealt with as they deserve to be.

The Tax Duplicate Controversy.

Differences of opinion between Assessors Thomas Rawson and Seymour P. Gilbert relative to the figures in the tax duplicate, have been a topic of discussion in official and political circles during the past week. Members of the Board of Commissioners of Appeal who have had occasion this past two weeks to examine closely into the duplicate, say that they can find no good ground for Mr. Rawson's allegations, and they advise that public opinion be suspended until Mr. Rawson submits his side of the controversy in writing when all questions of fact, if any exist, can be investigated by the proper authorities.

Much regret is expressed by friends of both parties that the deplorable controversy has arisen, but now that the matter has been given such publicity, it is only proper that Mr. Rawson should comply with Mr. Gilbert's request for a statement in writing, showing what inaccuracies, if any exist in the duplicate.

Public interests demand that this matter now be settled beyond question of doubt. The public has no particular interest in any personal feeling that may have arisen between members of the Board of Assessors in their pursuit of their work of making up the tax duplicate, but public interests require that the duplicate itself shall not be in the least affected by personal animus, and any doubt upon that question should be removed.

Catholic Lyceum Officers.

At the annual meeting of the Bloomfield Lyceum Thursday night the following officers were elected: President, Thos. H. Higgins; Vice-President, P. F. Dunigan; Recording Secretary, C. F. Dunn; Financial Secretary, John Moran; Treasurer, Rev. J. M. Nardiello; members of Board of Directors—Thomas P. Higgins, T. Johnson, J. Cavanaugh, W. Higgins and J. Carroll; Diocesan Union Delegates—Wm. Finn, Joseph Drudy and John Woods; Alternates—E. Conroy, J. Moran and G. Caffrey.

They are busy. Who? Why Arthur & Stanford. They are always busy and have just signed a contract for plumbing, tinning, heating and gas fitting for Mr. A. C. Dale's handsome new residence to be built on the north side of Benson street. The are also overhauling the heating system of the Glen Ridge Hall and Library. If your steam or hot air furnace needs looking after give them a trial. Prompt and good work guaranteed.—Adv.

A Plea for the Party.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR: Five members of the Town Council are Republicans in politics, and owe their election to office in no small degree to the aid and influence of the Republican organization in the town. While much pleasing talk is indulged in about the elimination of partisanship from the administration of local governmental affairs, it is not always best or wisest to become too insistent along that line, and to lose sight of the party organization altogether in the consideration of matters of public policy or in the selection of appointees to government positions. When it comes to the final analysis of the wisdom of governmental acts and the motives prompting them, it is party organization that must bear the brunt of the responsibility. A man elected on the Republican ticket may after election assume a lofty independence of party allegiance and cut the wildest kind of antics as a free lance, but at the conclusion of his term upon the political stage it is the party managers that must bear the disapproval of wearied and disgusted taxpayers, who will not hesitate to charge the party with "bringing him out." The most conservative members of any governing board are the ones who appreciate and respect party polity, and who are anxious to have the advice and counsel of the organization with respect to the course to be pursued in public affairs. As a rule the party always stands for better government than the individual does, because the party is always devoid of personal influences, and sees and acts upon a broader basis than the individual can. For the past few years here in Bloomfield, while the town has always been claimed as Republican, and Democrats and Independents take delight and endeavor to make some capital by charging up all deficiencies in government to the local Republican party, the fact is that the Republican organization has been practically ignored by the men it aided to elect. No one supposes for a moment that the town would be in the muddle it is in now over the water-supply question if the five Republican members had taken counsel with the Republican organization as to the policy to be pursued from a party standpoint on the important matter of water; and the question of water is only one of numerous questions in which party organization counsels would have shaped local legislation along smooth and harmonious lines. That the five Republican members of Council have been disintegrated, and that questions of the effect of legislation upon the party have been a matter of least and last concern, has been evident for some time. Several incidents have occurred in the course of the last three or four years that tend to indicate that the minority party in local affairs has not failed to gain some legitimate advantages from the party laxity of the majority. One of these instances occurred on Monday night, and was so transparent that the obtuseness of the majority to the party interests at stake caused even a Democrat to smile. The case was the petition requesting the Council to ask the member of the Board of Freeholders from this town to exert his influence to prevent the location of the county isolation hospital in Soho. The petition should have been referred to a safe committee on account of the party interests involved. The situation created by the Council tends to an embarrassing one for members of the Republican organization of this town, and if the matter had received the due consideration that ought to have been given it, the Republican members would have perceived the necessity of taking it under cover for a time. ORGANIZATION.

Fair Play Demanded.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR: Action taken by the Town Council Monday night indicates on the face of it that the majority in the Council proposes to act closely along the lines set forth in the resolutions adopted at the public meeting held in Central Hall on the evening of October 29, namely, to offer the Orange Water Company $90,000 for its plant, and in case of a refusal of the offer, to go ahead and construct a new and independent plant. It is obvious that if the Council strictly adheres to the course entered upon Monday night there is a possibility of a dual set of water mains in the streets of this town and a competition between the public and the private plant for patronage. The taxpayer cannot contemplate the possibility of such a condition of affairs without concern and anxiety. There is a probability that the Council will not go to the extreme of duplicate plants competing for business, and there is also a probability that the Orange Water Company is not at all disposed to encourage such a possible business condition. With two approaching a condition that both are desirous of avoiding, either one or the other ought to be able to discover some ground of compromise upon which a settlement could be reached in a manner mutually agreeable to all concerned.

The Council appears to be inclined to assume that the majority of the people of the town favor municipal ownership, and that a considerable reduction on the part of the Orange Water Company in the price of its plant would prove an acceptable solution of the water difficulty. The presumption is a doubtful one. It is not at all improbable that the aid of the court would be invoked to prevent the consummation of any sale of the water plant to the town except at a ridiculously low figure, and action in the courts might be supplemented with work at Trenton that would be likely to result disastrously to Bloomfield, namely, annexation to Newark.

There is a third factor in the water supply problem, namely, the eight citizen members of the Committee of Fifteen. This is a compromising factor and the one to which both the Council and the water company will appeal before the water question is settled, if it is settled at all, between the town of Bloomfield and the Orange Water Company. At a certain stage in the past negotiations in connection with the water question it was not difficult to understand why the Orange Water Company affected to look upon the Committee of Fifteen as an irresponsible body, to be ignored by the water company as a factor in the negotiations over the proposed sale of the plant to the town. The action of the water company in snubbing the Committee of Fifteen aroused public sentiment, and when the Committee of Fifteen appealed to the people not to purchase the plant, the snub was resented with a tremendous return blow. The Councilmen were considerably astonished at the way the people smote the water company's proposition. The water company treated the Committee of Fifteen as an interferer in a business proceeding that was under way between the Council and the water company, the vote of the people demonstrated that the Committee of Fifteen was expected by the people to interfere and to take a very active hand in the water negotiations. The Orange Water Company lost whatever opportunity it had to sell its plant to this town when it thrust the Committee of Fifteen aside with the remark that it was an unofficial, and therefore an irresponsible body, but nevertheless it can be understood why the company assumed the attitude that it did.

There is another phase of the water question that is not so readily understood and cannot be explained, either from a business or political standpoint, and that is the attitude assumed by six members of the Town Council toward their eight citizen colleagues in the Committee of Fifteen. Strenuous efforts have been made by members of the Council to humiliate the several citizens who were unfortunately selected, through no desire of their own, to assist the Council in arriving at a satisfactory solution of the water problem. The Council took the initiatory steps toward securing citizen help in dealing with the problem, and when the people responded by naming several citizens to act with the Council, the members of that body suddenly assumed a hostile attitude toward the people's representatives, and between the Councilmen on the one hand and the water company's representative on the other hand, the eight citizens whom the people clothed with power to act, soon discovered that they were intruders among mutual friends and that neither party to the negotiations desired either their counsel or their presence. The people thrashed the water company for its impertinance toward the citizen members of the Committee of Fifteen, but that thrashing does not appear to have had any effect upon the Council and is not interpreted as a warning. It is about time that the Councilmen gave their citizen colleagues a chance to do something. The Council recommended that the people pay $150,000 for the Orange Water Company's plant. The people refused to do it. The Council had its innings and was beaten. It would only be a matter of justice to listen now to a suggestion from the Committee of Fifteen and let the people act upon that. Call a public meeting and ascertain whether or not the people want to purchase a water plant or make a new contract. FAIR PLAY.

Arrested for Stealing Coal.

George Christian, an Italian from Silver Lake, was arrested on Thursday charged with stealing coal from the yard of Ogden & Cadmus, along the Lackawanna Railroad. Eugene Cadmus was the complainant. Recorder Cadmus committed Christian to jail to await the action of the grand jury. Christian has been employed at the new coal dump now in process of erection in the Lackawanna freight yard. It is alleged that his practice was to come to his work at an early hour in the morning and fill a bag with coal and conceal it in the brush nearby, and take it home after dark. Officer Durning found a bag filled with coal in the underbrush near the coal dump shortly after he arrested the Italian. The prisoner has been in jail before for stealing, and it is said that when his house was searched some time ago a number of things were found there that had undoubtedly been stolen.

Announcement.

The management of the Coleman National Business College, whose esteemed President, Henry Coleman, departed this life December 6, desires to announce that the school which has so long borne Mr. Coleman's name will be continued indefinitely.

Mr. Coleman had been in ill-health during the past twelve months, during which time the school (which is an incorporated institution) has been conducted by the present management, which will continue to conduct the business, supported by the same faculty. It will be the aim of the management to continue to conduct the school on the same high plane as in the past, and the co-operation of friends is respectfully solicited.

BOARD OF TRADE.

Nominations for Officers for the Ensuing Year Made Thursday Night—The Board Will Lose the Services of Its Efficient Secretary, Mr. Quinn—The Annual Banquet in Sight.

The Board of Trade held its quarterly meeting on Thursday night and nominated officers to be elected at the March meeting. William P. Sutphen was renominated for President, James H. Moore Vice-President, Charles R. Underhill Treasurer, Peter J. Quinn Secretary, Dr. W. L. Cornelison and David Oakes members of the Executive Committee. Greatly to the surprise and regret of the members present, Mr. Quinn, who has so efficiently filled the position of Secretary since the organization of the Board of Trade, positively declined a re-election. Those present refused to receive his declination, but Mr. Quinn would not yield. President Sutphen, John A. Lawrence, Charles H. Halfpenny, Thomas McGowan, James H. Moore, Fred M. Davis and others expressed regrets over the Secretary's decision, and it was decided to leave the matter of a nomination of his successor in the hands of a committee.

Mr. Quinn's reasons for declining are said to be solely due to pressure of other business. He has been an ardent and loyal worker in the interests of the Board, and his retirement from the official staff is much deplored.

Several communications from out of town organizations were read and filed Thursday night.

The principal topic of discussion was the report of the Press Committee with reference to publishing, under the auspices of the Board, an illustrated pamphlet setting forth the residential attractions of Bloomfield. The cost of the enterprise will be defrayed by private subscriptions, and two of the subcommittees of the Board have volunteered to undertake the raising of funds.

An effort was made to have the water-supply question informally discussed, but beyond a statement by John R. Conlan as to the action of the Town Council in the matter no one appeared to be disposed to take up the subject.

The Membership Committee submitted five applications for membership, which were favorably acted upon.

Officers will be elected at the March meeting, and arrangements were undertaken for the annual banquet.

President Sutphen thanked the members of the Board for the honor bestowed upon him by his renomination for the office of President.

Judge Post Getting Better.

Latest reports from the Mountainside Hospital are to the effect that Justice Jacob G. Post is recovering from his recent illness and will be about again in a few days. The judge's many friends will be pleased to learn that he will soon be about again.

Y. M. C. A. Notes.

Jere M. Cobb, an elocutionist from Newark, will address the meeting tonight at Watsessing. The address will be preceded by a short business meeting. S. E. H. Eddy of New York, the well known baritone, will sing at this service.

Chas. M. Decker & Bros.

Orange, East Orange South Orange Montclair

INTERESTING TEA NEWS.

We have recently received, direct from the growers, large consignments of the best grades of high class teas. These we have packed in special cartons of one, three and five pounds, each one air tight.

No matter which is your favorite brand—Formosa Oolong, English Breakfast, Japan, Ceylon or mixed—we have it here and at prices so considerably reduced as to make the purchase of a three or five pound carton well worth while.

We offer a most excellent Formosa Oolong, in 5 or 10 pound lots, at as low as 45c. a pound, or $2.25 for a 5 pound box; also a very good English Breakfast Tea in 5 and 10 pound lots as low as 35c. a pound, or $1.75 for a 5 pound box. Three or five one pound cartons are sold at the 3 or 5 lb. price, no extra charge being made for the cartons.

Samples of any grade of tea are freely given upon application. Ask for a sample of your favorite kind.

MAIL ORDERS FILLED.

Send For The Christmas Quarterly Free—Just Out.

JAMES ARTHUR. JOHN STANFORD

ARTHUR & STANFORD,

Plumbing, Tinning and Gas Fitting

SEWER CONNECTIONS.

Steam, Hot Air and Hot Water Heating.

All new work guaranteed and kept in repair for one year. Estimates cheerfully given. Jobbing promptly attended to.

449 Bloomfield Ave., Bloomfield.

Long Distance Telephone 37-1.

BLOOMFIELD

Savings Institution,

Office: 7 Broad Street,

Bloomfield, N. J.

SURPLUS, - - $67,477.18

NEW ACCOUNTS RECEIVED

Interest Dividends Declared Jan. 1st and July 1st.

POST CARDS

Thomas M. Tryniski
309 Southside Street
Fulton New York
13069

www.fultonhistory.com